

Message Text

SECRET

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47

ACTION NEA-07

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NEAE-00 PM-03 CIAE-00 INR-05 L-01

SP-02 NSC-05 PRS-01 /039 W
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P R 031315Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY MANAMA BAHRAIN
TO SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY 2255
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI UAE
AMCONSUL DHAHRAN SAUDI ARABIA
AMEMBASSY DOHA QATAR
AMCONSUL KHOARAMSHahr IRAN
AMEMBASSY JIDDA SAUDI ARABIA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT OMAN
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IRAN
COMIDEASTFOR
CNO WASHINTON DC
SECDEF WASHINGTON DC
CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON UK

S E C R E T MANAMA 0765

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS : PFOR, BA
SUBJECT : GULF FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING AND U.S.
NAVY PRESENCE IN BAHRAIN

1. GOB FOREIGN MINISTER TELLS ME HE WILL BE LEAVING JULY 11
FOR RIYADH TO ATTEND GULF FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING. HE SAID
HE LOOKED FORWARD TO THIS SESSION PRIMARILY AS AN OPPORTUNITY
TO GET A READING ON HOW SERIOUS THE PROSPECTS FOR SOME SORT OF
GULF COMMON SECURITY STRATEGY OR DEFENSE PACT MIGHT BE. AS
REPORTED PREVIOUSLY, WHILE FOREIGN MINISTER WELCOMES, AND
EVEN PARTICIPATES IN, CURRENT CHATTER ABOUT GULF DEFENSE PACT,
HE TENDS TO REGARD IT AS LARGEY GAS.

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2. WE MUST ASSUME THAT AT THIS MEETING HE MIGHT TELL HIS COLLEAGUES

HE IS PREPARED TO SEEK UNDERSTANDING THAT U.S. NAVY WILL LEAVE
BAHRAIN BY 1977 IF THAT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO QUEST FOR GULF
SECURITY COOPERATION. IN A WIDE-RANGING DISCUSSION JULY 2 I
GOT CLEAR IMPRESSION FOREIGN MINISTER REGARDS 1977 DATE FOR
MIDDLE EAST FORCE DEPARTURE FROM BAHRAIN AS A POLICY PLANNING
DATE SUBJECT TO UNILATERAL GOB REVIEW AS SITUATION IN THE
AREA EVOLVES. HE NOTED WITH SOME BITTERNESS THAT GOB MIGHT
NOT BE UNDER SUCH PRESSURE TO LIMIT THE DURATION OF THE MIDDLE
EAST FORCE PRESENCE "IF OUR BIG BROTHERS IN TEHRAN AND RIYADH
WOULD STOP WHISPERING WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT TO US IN PALACE
CORRIDORS WHILE LEAVING US PUBLICLY ALONE TO FACE HOSTILE
ARAB OPINION".

TWINAM

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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